

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C § 102

Claims 1-5, 14-19 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hurlimann (US 2002/0105326). Applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 reciting a processing method that is independent of prior knowledge of the formation and does not require application of a regularization operation. The cited reference requires some type of regularization process (Hurlimann, paras. 52-55). Approaches requiring regularization parameters are discussed and further distinguished in Applicant's specification at pages 2-3.

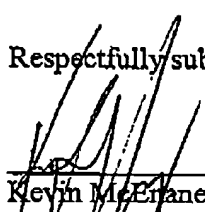
Conclusion

Applicants believe this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 19-0610.

Date:

April 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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